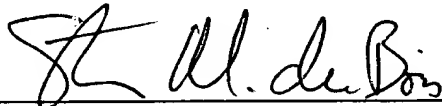


REMARKS

The Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above-noted claim amendments in order to bring the claims of the application in conformity with U.S. practice. Favorable action on the merits of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: 
Steven M. du Bois
Registration No. 35,023

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

Date: January 30, 2001